UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/918,204	07/30/2001	Taejae Lee	STL920000096US1	2143

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EXAMINER
MIRZA, ADNAN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2145	

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/918,204	LEE ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Adnan M. Mirza	2145	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *15 September 2005*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-6,8-18,20-30 and 32-36* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-6,8-18,20-30,32-36* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-6,8-18,20-30,32-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Graylin et al (U.S. 2003/0033415 and Rajarajan et al (U.S. 2002/0143949).

As per claims 1,13,25 Graylin disclosed a method for enabling access to resource objects in an

application engine, comprising: receiving a request, from a calling entity, for workflow resource

objects of a specified type in the workflow engine; wherein the specified type of the requested

resource objects comprises at least one of the workflow objects, workflow templates and work

lists defined in the work flow engine (Graylin, Page. 8, Paragraph 088;0091); generating a

request to the workflow engine for information on available workflow resource objects of the

specified type (Page. 2, Paragraph 0033);

However Graylin did not disclose in detail in response to receiving the information from the

application engine, generating a collection object including one metadata element for each

resource object of the specified type in the application engine; and returning the generated

collection object to the calling entity.

In the same field of endeavor Rajarajan disclosed next the method receives a request to perform the management task in relation to the first managed object and determines which resource to call in response to the request; and then sends a task request to the determined resource to perform the management task (Page. 2, Paragraph 0011). A request is generated and sent to the identified resource to collect all dynamic task. Dynamic task information relates to functions that may be performed on particular data object, e.g., a particular user, but may not be available for all objects of that type, e.g., all users. Additionally, dynamic task may relate to the particular instance of an object, e.g., a task relating to disabling an account is dynamic since it depends on whether the account has been enabled (Page. 12, Paragraph. 0101).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have incorporated next the method receives a request to perform the management task in relation to the first managed object and determines which resource to call in response to the request; and then sends a task request to the determined resource to perform the management task. A request is generated and sent to the identified resource to collect all dynamic task. Dynamic task information relates to functions that may be performed on particular data object, e.g., a particular user, but may not be available for all objects of that type, e.g., all users. Additionally, dynamic task may relate to the particular instance of an object, e.g., a task relating to disabling an account is dynamic since it depends on whether the account has been enabled as taught by Rajarajan in the method of Graylin because accessing different resources in this manner is time consuming and requires a mastery of many types of applications and front –ends (Page. 1, Paragraph. 0007).

3.   As per claims 2,14,26 Graylin- Rajarajan disclosed wherein the calling entity comprises

an application program (Graylin, Page. 7, Paragraph 0078).

4.   As per claim 3,15,27 Graylin-Rajarajan disclosed wherein the calling entity issues the

request from a client and wherein the request is received on a server including the workflow

engine (Graylin, Page. 7, Paragraph. 0078).

5.   As per claims 4,16,28 Graylin-Rajarajan disclosed wherein the workflow engine is one of

a plurality of service engines enabling access to service resources, wherein the request for the

resource objects from the calling entity comprises a method that is a member of a service class

implementation of the workflow engine, wherein each service engine provides one service class

implementation of methods and objects from a same abstract service class (Rajarajan, Page. 7,

Paragraph 0072-0074).

6.   As per claims 5,17,29 Graylin-Rajarajan disclosed wherein the workflow engine and

other service 2 engines comprise workflow products from different vendors (Rajarajan, Page. 20,

Paragraph. 0175).

7.   As per claims 6,18,30 Graylin-Rajarajan disclosed wherein the workflow service class

implementations from different vendors each include methods and objects from a same abstract

workflow service class specifying methods and objects to include in all workflow service class implementations (Graylin, Page. 8, Paragraph 0095).

8.   As per claims 8,20,32 Graylin-Rajarajan disclosed wherein the collection object is generated using methods from a collection object class, further comprising: receiving a retrieve method in the collection object class from the calling entity requesting the workflow resource object represented by one selected metadata element in the collection object (Rajarajan, Page. 5, Paragraph. 0050); generating an additional request to the application engine for the resource object requested in the retrieve method; receiving the requested resource object from the application engine; and returning the requested workflow resource object to the calling entity invoking the retrieve method (Rajarajan , Page. 7, Paragraph. 0072).

9.   As per claims 9,21,33 Graylin-Rajarajan disclosed wherein the calling entity uses methods from the collection object class to access the collection object (Rajarajan, Page. 12, Paragraph. 0098).

10.   As per claims 10,22,34 Graylin-Rajarajan disclosed wherein the generated additional request to the workflow engine is in a service class implemented by the workflow engine including methods and objects to access the workflow engine (Graylin, Page. 2, Paragraph 0033).

11.   As per claims 11,23,35 Graylin-Rajarajjan disclosed wherein the application engine is

one of a plurality of service engines enabling access to service resources, wherein each service

engine provides one collection object class implementation of methods from a same abstract

collection object class used to instantiate and manipulate a collection object including metadata

on workflow resource objects available at: the workflow engine (Page. 6, Paragraph 0061-0062).

12.   As per claim 12,24,36 Graylin-Rajarajjan disclosed wherein the collection object is

generated using methods from a collection object class and wherein the request for the resource

object from the calling entity is in a service class implemented by the application engine that

includes methods and objects to access the application engine (Page. 5, Paragraph. 0049-0050).

Response to Arguments

During the telephone interview the Examiner recommended certain suggestion to the applicant

regarding 101 rejection and towards the claim language of the independent claims. The

Applicant's amendments overcome the 101 rejection, however the claim language of

independent claims doesn't overcome the art rejection.

Response to applicant's arguments is as follows:

13. Applicant argued that prior art did not disclose, "a workflow engine and wherein the

specified type of the requested resource objects comprises one of workflow objects, workflow

templates and work lists defined in the application engine".

As to applicant's argument, Graylin disclosed, "the user preferences elaborating system of the

invention can be implemented as one or more server objects which can be accessed by client

objects seeking user preference information by the invocation of one or more user preference

manager methods (Page. 8, Paragraph. 0091). Each of the of these classes serves as a template

which defines data structure for holding the attributes and program instructions which perform

the method of an object. Each class also includes a means for instantiating of creating an object

from the class template (Page. 8, Paragraph. 0088).

14.   Applicant argued that prior art did not disclose, "receiving the information from the

application engine, generating a collection object including one metadata element for each

resource object of the specified type in the application engine that is returned to a calling entity

requesting resource objects of a specified type".

As to applicant's argument Graylin disclosed, "an exemplary entitlement manager system which

provides the underlying structure for the user preference elaborating system includes an

entitlement processor which receives data from and provides data to an accessor storage, an

accessor group data and an object registry data storage. As used herein "accessor" are entities

which request access to and are generally entitled to some kind of access to, objects or resources

in the system. An "accessor group" refers to a named collection ort group of accessors. An

"object registry" (OR) includes individual resources, each resource uniquely identified and

associated with an entitlement expression." (Page. 2, Paragraph. 0033). One ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention knows that receiving the data is interpreted as same as receiving

information and "accessor group" is interpreted as collection of objects.

15.   Applicant argued that prior art did not disclose, "Requirement of multiple service

engines, each providing one service class implementation of methods and objects from a same

abstract service class".

As to applicant's argument Rajarajan disclosed, "the client computer system may communicate

with the server computer system via many different protocols over various types of connections.

As shown in FIG. 1, the system 102 and 104 may communicate via the internet 106 using

Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP), mark-up languages, or some other communication protocol

suitable for use with, for example, the internet, in a particular embodiment, client computer

system 102 is a Microsoft.NET client, but other, non-Microsoft NET client may be used (Page.

3, Paragraph. 0038).

16.   Applicant argued that prior art did not disclose, "multiple application or service engines

comprising workflow products from different vendors".

As to applicant's argument Rajarajan disclosed, " As is shown in Figure. 3, the client

environment may include a web browser, such as browser shown in FIG. 1, as well as an applet

running on the web browser 311. The applet functions to generate a management console, as

described in below, in the web browser that is compatible with the Microsoft ".NET Framework"

(Page. 16, Paragraph. 0131).

Conclusion

17.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner

should be directed to Adnan Mirza whose telephone number is (571)-272-3885.

18.   The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday during normal business

hours. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on (571)-272-3933. The fax for this group is (703)-

746-7239. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is
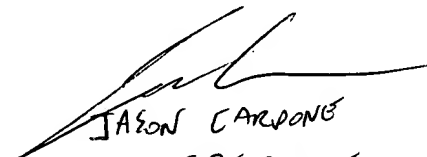
assigned is 571-273-8300.

19.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for un published

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866)-217-9197 (toll-free).

Adnan Mirza

Examiner